

Kenton Krew Swings East This Month

(Photo on Page 16)

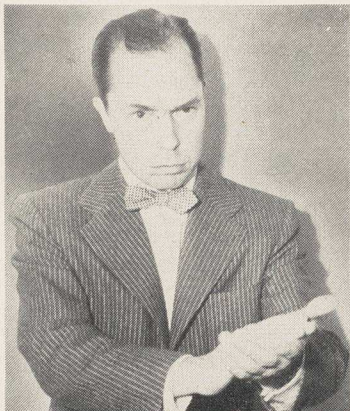
TAN KENTON plays the L. A. Orpheum Theatre and a series of fast one-nighters this month before he and his fast-moving "Artistry in Rhythm" band cut over for New York to play the Capitol Theatre and Dailey's Meadowbrook in nearby New Jersey.

The Kenton crew just finished four rush weeks at the Palladium here. The Orpheum opening is set for Jan. 9. Stan and his men, with Anita O'Day and Gene Howard singing, also recorded a new set of tunes for Capitol while at the Palladium, as well as additional inscriptions for C. P. MacGregor. His group now includes five saxes, five trumpets, four trombones and four drums, with Stan holding down the piano chair.

Crash Kills Lennie Conn

A motor car crash in the Callegua Pass just outside Hollywood was fatal to Lennie Conn, local bandleader, Dec. 10. Conn was driving home alone after a job and apparently fell asleep at the wheel. A Chicagoan, Lennie was rated as one of the best clarinet players on the west coast. His band had played the Monday night sessions at the Palladium for a year. The widow and two children survive.

Most of the members of the Conn band were studio sidemen who worked with Lennie occasionally for "kicks." The group has disbanded.



AC-CENT-TCHU-ATE the Positive . . . that's Johnny Mercer's advice on his newest Capitol record success of the same title. Mercer composed the ditty himself for Paramount's "Here Come the Waves." But this is the way he looked when he recorded it. The record has just been released. Photo by Charlie Mihn.

Jess Stacy Joins Tom Dorsey's Ork

Addition of Jess Stacy, noted jazz pianist, to the Tommy Dorsey band was effected in December after Stacy's plans to lead a band of his own fell through. Jess replaced Dodo Marmarosa, who quit TD to join Artie Shaw. Tommy and his band now are playing in the east.

No Poll Results!

Readers of *The Capitol* will find no results of music polls in this issue—or any other issue. The *Capitol* is unique in this respect, and is certainly the only nationally circulated music rag which does not attempt to evaluate the popularity of bands and bandsmen. If you like to cast ballots read *Metronome*, *Down Beat* or *Orchestra World*.

Paramount Will Film Andy Russell

FROM ONE Paramount to another. That's Andy Russell's story as he returns to H'wood this month, after four big weeks at the N. Y. Paramount Theatre, to begin a new career in motion pictures at Paramount studios with an independent producer.

Russell, one of the nation's fave singing stars, was signed to a long-term acting binder last week by B. G. (Buddy) DeSylva. It will mark Andy's first shot at flickers. Several studios had been tailing him, persuading him to sign.

After exhaustive tests, Russell is likely to be spotted in a forthcoming Betty Hutton picture, "Stork Club," which DeSylva will produce independently.

Lucky Comes On At Plantation

Lucky Millinder is the new attraction at the Plantation Club, Central avenue hotspot, and will remain on tap throughout January.

Millinder, who last played here at the Casa Manana in the summer of '43, features Judy Carol, singer; Joe Guy, trumpet, and a set of red tails worn by the leader. The Plantation was recently redecorated.

Bill Burton, Manager, Weds Hope McKenzie

The marriage of Hope McKenzie, actress, to Bill Burton, long prominent in music as a personal manager of bands and singers, came as a surprise to Burton's friends Dec. 6 in Las Vegas, Nev. Dick Haymes acted as best man for the groom. The couple is now "at home" in Beverly Hills.

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Assoc. Editor: Lou Schurrer

pop-offs

Louisville, Ky.

...Don't ever stop publishing The Capitol. There are too few good music sheets.

DORIS DEVASIER
Mayflower Apts., No. 210

Assam, India.

A few words of thanks from myself and the fellows in our bashee (that means bamboo hut)... Our entertainment has improved considerably since we first got here. We now see three movies a week but we've had only one USO show with Maj. Melvyn Douglas and fine girl entertainers. The monsoon season has ended. We still write by candlelight but hope to have electricity soon. Thanks for The Capitol—it's great.
T/5 ED SKRZYPEK
Co. B, 745 Ry. Op. Bn.
APO 466, N. Y. C.

Italian Front.

The contents of The Capitol, believe me, are super... Never have I read any material connected with music that I enjoyed so much. Thanks a million and keep me on that mailing list!
HERB HIGGINS, JR.
403rd AAA Gun Bn.
APO 464, N. Y. C.

Iceland.

Pay no heed to those cynics back home who write indignant letters. We like to see pictures of girls and The Capitol reminds us of the swell times we used to have in the U. S. A.
Pfc. A. E. HUFFMAN
14th Air Ser. Sqdn.
APO 610, N. Y. C.

No Southpaws

In answer to readers who excitedly wrote The Capitol to point out that Red Nichols and Billy Butterfield do not play trumpet left-handed—as the photos indicated on Pages 8-9 of the December issue—the eds advise that the engravers slyly reversed the pictures. There's really nothing to be alarmed about. Red and Bill aren't portsiders—yet.



One Last Look at Old Man '44

IT WAS a better year than '43, perhaps, if for no other reason than the United Nations achieved military successes of the utmost importance. But the music biz was far from normal throughout 1944; transportation troubles, a shortage of musicians and a dozen other unnatural conditions must be eliminated if the new annum is to approach the glories of the pre-war days of the late Thirties.

It was the year...

That Glenn Miller became a Major, and accomplished Gargantuan results in building British-American goodwill...

That Woody Herman's long-overdue herd belatedly hit the jackpot...

That the King Cole Trio zoomed out of obscurity into the foremost ranks of entertainers...

That uncommon occurrences occurred, among them the rather peculiar fad, in New York, of musicians taking turns at punching Leonard Feather's face; of kid trumpeters all trying to outscreech each other; of kid tenormen all aping Hawkins; of the sudden decline of zoot suits, and various other phenomena not excluding the frantic recording of great and pitifully bad jazzmen by 20 or 30 fly-by-night recording companies.

It likewise was the year that Stan Kenton cautiously but unerringly moved into the Top Five circle, that Eddie Heywood began to win deserved recognition, that no new schmaltz band appeared to challenge the small and large jazz combos, and that the New Yorker mag profiled the Duke of Ellington in four consecutive issues.

The 12-month period saw Gene Krupa and Art Shaw return to the bandstand, both in violent disagreement as to the merits of a string section. And Benny Goodman, unable to cope with poor musicians and a booker's stranglehold, abandoned his ensemble, preferring to work sporadically with small units.

Credit '44, too, with the astounding renaissance in jazz—real jazz music—initiated chiefly by Yank fighting men on faraway battlefronts, eager to hear something more exciting and honest than the tepid, monotonous syncopation of the cornshuckers.

Nor must the names of the late Jimmie Noone, Clarence Profit, Mort Maser, Tommy Thomas, Bob Zurke and all they stood for slip from our memories. They are missed.

It was the year that nearly 30 million adult Americans endorsed progressiveness, liberalism and equality of all races and creeds by swarming to the polls to assert their convictions; it was a catastrophic year for the reactionaries, the fascists, the prejudiced and others who oppose the true meaning of the word Democracy. Here again the music biz was a leader in this vast and undeniable move toward a permanent world peace.

The horrible spectre of war dominates every human endeavor; unless military miracles come to pass, that same spectre will continue to rule throughout the coming months. The old year was one which will be remembered vividly—throng of crippled, maimed and disfigured young American boys on the streets, at sporting events with their crutches nearby, and in hospital vehicles being transported to who knows where, and to what kind of a future?

Yes, Old Man '44 is gone. He was a stinker. His successor can hardly be as miserable. Upon the shoulders of those who will attempt permanent world peace lies a responsibility that few men in the history of the world have carried. They must not fail.

Nor must the Arts. For within the Arts rests the power to maintain peace and love of fellow man throughout the world. Stronger than any treaty ever composed, the Arts can do much to further accord and trust among all races.

Come on in, '45... there are things to be done!

Casa Manana Back to Big Name Deal



FREDDY MARTIN greets **Phil Harris** and **Alice Faye** at the Martin band's opening at the Cocoanut Grove. Freddy, for the first time, is offering jazz in his repertoire on his current Ambassador stand. Photo by Charlie Mihn.

Harry James Set For 4 Weekends

CULVER CITY'S Casa Manana Ballroom, for many years one of the most important location jobs for name bands, abandons its hillbilly policy for good this month and returns to big time policies when Harry James and his combo open on Jan. 14 for four consecutive weekends.

Joe Zucca, owner of the Casa, also was to offer Jan Garber for the New Year's Eve party. Following James, said Zucca, would be another Class A ork. Eventually Zucca hopes to operate the Casa every night.

The Casino Gardens in Ocean Park will close its doors after Dec. 31 and will be dark for at least two months. That's the room owned by the Dorsey brothers. Business has been bad there in recent months and reports persist that the spot is up on the block.

Billy Eckstine for L. A. Plantation

New combo led by Billy Eckstine, former pash baritone with Earl Hines, moves into the Plantation Club here Feb. 1 following Lucky Millinder's current run. Eckstine will be making his first west coast appearance as a stick-wielder. Billy also plays trumpet.



BENNY CARTER continues to wrack up new high marks in theatres while he and his band tour with the King Cole Trio. This shot, by Charlie Mihn, shows Carter hitting a high 'un on trumpet. But Benny is equally proficient as a saxist, clarinetist, composer and arranger. He returns to H'wood in March.



GEORGIA CARROLL and hubby **Kay Kyser** make their pitch via the air for the annual "March of Dimes" campaign, to be conducted nationally Jan. 14-31 for the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis. Kyser's new radio sponsor is Colgate's, but after two years with the dentifrice people his "Kollege of Music Knowledge" will return to Lucky Strike sponsorship.

Long Jumps For King Cole, Carter Ork

The record-breaking theatre tour of the King Cole trio and Benny Carter's band continues throughout the east in January and February.

Here is the itinerary for the two attractions, both of which record regularly and exclusively for Capitol:

Flint, Mich., Jan. 6; Stanley Theatre, Utica, N. Y., 9-11; Temple Theatre, Rochester, N. Y., 12-14; RKO-Keith, Boston, 18 (week); Adams Theatre, Newark, N. J., 25 (week); State Theatre, Hartford, Conn., Feb. 2-4; Earle Theatre, Philadelphia, 9 (week); Loew's State, New York, 22 (week); Paradise Theatre, Detroit, March 2 (week).

Guthrie into Khaki

Only a few weeks after he recorded his first sides for Capitol, which are not yet released, Jack Guthrie entered the army. Guthrie is noted throughout the Southwest for his hillbilly singing.

Jo Jones is out of the army. The Count Basie drummer was stationed at Fort Ord, Cal. He'll rejoin Basie this month at New York's Hotel Lincoln.

off the cuff

DISMISSAL of the Tommy Dorsey-Jon Hall case by Judge Arthur Crum Dec. 7 came as no surprise to the music trade. Hall's courtroom testimony was indefinite and contradictory, and Jerry Giesler, attorney for Tommy and Mrs. Dorsey, encountered no difficulty tripping up the actor and other witnesses as to what happened during the "Battle of the Balcony" at TD's swank Sunset Boulevard residence the morning of Aug. 5. Somebody got hurt. But how and why will never be known, at least publicly. The whole mess has been written off and Tommy now is in the east with his band on a theatre tour.

Leopold Stokowski signed with Capital Songs, Inc., for a series of Stokowski transcriptions of classical works. Mickey Goldsen handled for Capitol.

Ted Grouya, songcleffer, now a U. S. citizen.

Emmett Karls, tenor sax, leaving Stan Kenton's band.

"Eight to the Bar Ranch," a new radio show starring the Andrews Sisters, teed off Dec. 31 from H'wood on the Blue.

Johnny Mercer back from 2-week vacation.

Frankie Carle and ork slated for RKO film musical during their Palladium engagement here in March.

Lena Horne and Horace Henderson are touring army camps throughout the South.

Frank Sinatra's new film, now in works at RKO, is "Bar of Music," an Eric Hatch magazine story revolving around a night club owner.



GINNIE POWELL is the lass who decorates the Palladium bandstand these nights as Gene Krupa's band provides music. Miss Powell, who first became prominent with Boyd Raeburn's band, shares vocal assignments with a singing group known as the G-Noters and comprising Lillian Lane, Buddy Stewart, Dave Lambert and Jerry Davenport.

New Mickey Gillette Combo With Pearce

Mickey Gillette's new 14-piece studio band grabbed off the music chores on the new Al Pearce CBS program, which is heard only in the east although it emanates from H'wood.

Krupa Current; Monroe Next at The Palladium

Gene Krupa's current engagement at the Palladium here will continue through January, with Vaughn Monroe's band set to follow next month.

The 1945 Krupa aggregation finds Gene fronting the band through most of the sets, using another drummer to carry the load with the rhythm section. Gene frequently "sits in" up front, however, to offer flashy solos. A string section also is present.

Vocalists featured include Ginnie Powell and the G-Noters, vocal quartet headed by Lillian Lane who at one time was chanteuse with the old Claude Thornhill pre-war combo. The band broadcasts via KNX-CBS with Bill Ewing handling the announcing chores. Monroe's opening in February will mark the first time Vaughn and his troupe have played the Palladium.

Krupa's band will make "George White's Scandals" for RKO Pictures while in L. A.

Harry James on New Kaye Show

Harry James and his band return to radio, on a sponsored program, for the first time in nearly a year starting Jan. 6 as a supporting unit on the new Danny Kaye show, which tees off over CBS for Pabst.

The horn-blower will be written into the script as a "character." Kenny Baker's program fades as a result. James will feature Corky Corcoran, tenor sax; Buddy DeVito, just released from the army, and Kitty Kallen. Latter two sing

Stage Is Set For Esquire's Jan. 17 Bash

DUKE ELLINGTON'S orchestra, Coleman Hawkins, Art Tatum, Billie Holiday, Al Casey, Sid Catlett and Anita O'Day will head the list of artists appearing, in person, at the second annual Esquire concert to be held Jan. 17 in the Los Angeles Philharmonic Auditorium.

"Most Spectacular" Concert

The event will be the most spectacular ever held, within the field of jazz, in Southern California.

Ellington is winner, in the Esquire poll of 22 nationally prominent music critics, of the "gold award" both as a maestro and arranger. Johnny Hodges, Billy Strayhorn, Lawrence Brown, Harry Carney and Ray Nance, all featured with the Ellington band, also will be presented trophies for winning various divisions of the poll.

Representatives of the magazine, however, have so far made no mention of certain great jazzmen now in L. A. who were expected to appear at the concert. These artists include such stalwarts as Red Nichols, Joe Sullivan, Eddie Miller, Art Shapiro, Zutty Singleton and others. Whether any of these all-time greats of jazz are to be included on the program is yet to be ascertained.

Another in New Orleans

The magazine will have a concert in New Orleans at the same time of the L. A. event, including a ceremony which will find the name of Saratoga street being changed back to Basin street.

Benny Goodman's Quintet with Red Norvo and Teddy Wilson, Mildred Bailey and others will broadcast from N. Y. in connection with the New Orleans ceremony.

Local radio stations are plugging the L. A. bash via records.

Leonard Feather will come here from N. Y. to supervise the concert.



READY to jump at the Esquire concert in Los Angeles' Philharmonic Auditorium Jan. 17, Duke Ellington poses with five of his famous sidemen, all of whom will be on hand for the event. The setting includes Rex Stewart, cornet; Joseph (Tricky Sam) Nanton, trombone; Harry Carney, baritone sax playing soprano here; Johnny Hodges, alto, and Sonny Greer, drums. Other renowned jazzmen will appear in person at the concert.

KFWB Launches Series of Jazz Concerts With Norman

By LOU SCHURRER

Hot jazz crashed radio with a vengeance last month when Station KFWB in H'wood—one of the most powerful and popular stations in the west—introduced as a weekly feature a new series starring "America's Most Hip Announcer," youthful Gene Norman, his associate Dave Dexter of Capitol Records and a supply of new and old recorded le hot classics.

Sponsored by Eastside Beer, the jazz stanza is heard at 11 p.m. every Tuesday. Norman emcees the show. Dexter is commentator and supervises musical selections.

Despite the acute radio consciousness of Hollywood residents, pitifully little in the way of jazz is heard over local stations. The bulk of live and recorded programs offer ordinary, commercial dance music, with heavy emphasis on pash singers of the day.

Hunter Hancock, KFVD; Al Jarvis, KFWB; Ira Cook, KFAC; Carl Bailey, KPAS; Tom Hanlon, KNX, and Frank Bull, also KFWB, frequently delve into the jazz field but rarely emphasize the idiom. The new Tuesday night Eastside stanza offers jazz exclusively, however.

KFWB, noted for its liberal outlook is owned by Warner Brothers.



JOHNNY MERCER

'AC-CENT-TCHU-ATE THE POSITIVE'

WITH THE PIED PIPERS
AND PAUL WESTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA

JUNE HUTTON
'There's a Fellow Waiting in'

POUGHKEEPSIE

FROM
PARAMOUNT'S
"HERE COME
THE WAVES"



No. 180

BILLY BUTTERFIELD

AND HIS ORCHESTRA

'THERE GOES THAT SONG AGAIN'

FROM COLUMBIA'S "CAROLINA BLUES"

and

'MOONLIGHT IN VERMONT'

Vocals by MARGARET WHITING



No. 182



Long-Term Film Contracts Fade for Bands, Studios

A new deal for bands in motion pictures is evident as the new year starts. Unlike the contracts written in previous annuums, in which various top bands were tied down by one studio in order to get an exclusive on an ork's film appearances, the trend this season is for one-picture deals, and no holds barred.

Metro went option "batty" last month and dropped Harry James, Vaughn Monroe and a couple of lesser names from its contractee list. James, who wasn't happy at MGM anyway, immediately skipped over to 20th-Fox and began work in "Kitten On the Keys." Metro officials said they had nothing in store for the James band or any other band, and so Harry was freed of his contract. Xavier Cugat is the only maestro still under long-term contract to the studio.

Columbia is said to have likewise dropped Hal McIntyre.

All of which indicates a new system

is fast becoming effective. The studios believe they can fare better by signing a band for a single picture, rather than for a period of years as in the past. For the bands it also should be a better deal. More than a dozen of the nation's finest musical aggregations have been forced to work in cheap, "B" and "C" productions merely because they were tied to a contract.

Artistic standard of band musicals, as a result, should improve under the new "one-shot" system.

Lena Horne for All-Negro Flick

Lena Horne will move from MGM to RKO soon to star in an all-Negro musical to be titled "Sweet Georgia Brown" which John Auer will produce and direct.

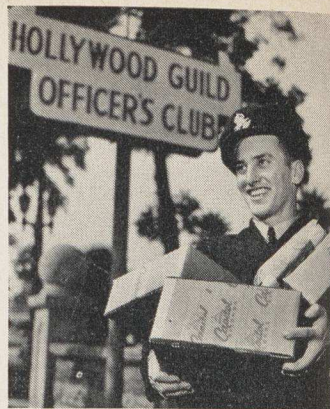
La Horne, a one-time band canary with Noble Sissle and Charlie Barnet, became one of the screen sensations of the year in 1943 as a result of appearances in various Metro musicals. No bands have yet been announced for the forthcoming flicker but one and probably two are sure to be utilized, said Auer.

Nichols Draws H-O

Red Nichols and his Pennies have drawn a holdover at Topsy's in nearby Southgate. Lynne Fair is featured as Red's canary and Herb Haymer is on tenor sax.

Dukoff, Boyer Due

Bob Dukoff, tenor saxist, and his wife Anita Boyer, vocalist, both featured with Jimmy Dorsey's band, are expected back in H'wood about Jan. 15. They quit Dorsey last month in N. Y.



OFF TO AUSTRALIA, after two years in Europe at war, James H. Oswin of the Royal Australian Air Force pauses in H'wood long enough to obtain a fat supply of Capitol records which he will play over Sydney radio stations. Oswin was a writer for the Sydney Sun before the war and is one of thousands of Aussie jazz enthusiasts. Photo by Dorlan.

Capitol Contract For Peggy Lee

Peggy Lee has signed to record additional sides for Capitol.

The blonde former Benny Goodman thrush will return to wax for the first time since last January when she made two stellar sides for Capitol's "New American Jazz" album. It wasn't until a few weeks ago, however, that she signed a Capitol contract which should see her newest faces hitting the disc shops within a couple of months.

Peggy's husband, guitar-strumming Dave Barbour, will conduct a small jazz band as accompaniment on the new etchings. Peggy's new manager is Carlos Castel. GAC books.

Cole is Music's 'Man of the Year'

King's Trio to Top Via Records

IN PREVIOUS years they argued. The critics saluted one maestro and the paying public acclaimed another. Rarely was there accord. Music's "Man of the Year" was any one of a dozen or more characters, each heavily backed.

But 1944 was different. There weren't any arguments. The critics and hoi polloi were unanimous in their decision. The "Man of the Year" is 28-year-old Nathaniel Coles, who as leader of the King Cole Trio stepped from virtual oblivion in '44 to take his place among the immortals of American popular music.

Enter the Buzzard and Monkey

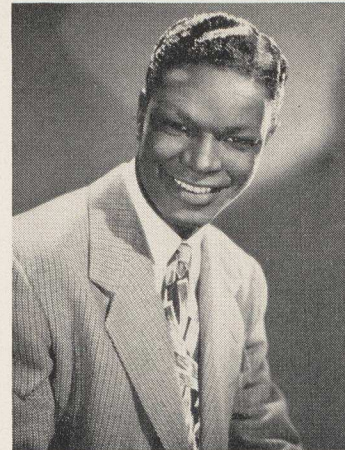
Nat is King today, and deservedly. Last January he, Guitarist Oscar Moore and Bassist Johnny Miller were ensconced in a small bistro in Los Angeles—the same spot they'd been playing month after month. Los Angeles musicians thought the trio was sensational. So did a few hip L. A. music lovers. But nothing much happened. Night after night the boys ran through their repertoire. Period.

Then came the fantastic story of a buzzard who took a monkey for a ride through the skies. Nat found himself getting more and more requests for the song. It was a knocked-out lyric and Cole squeezed it for all it was worth. Along came Johnny Mercer on the heels of the buzzard. Mercer asked Cole's trio to record the tune. And by May the entire nation was spinning the Capitol-Cole discing of "Straighten Up." In short, it was one of the biggest sellers of the year.

Employs Real Jazz Conception

Cole's voice, and his superb piano artistry, emphasize a true jazz conception. The sincerity and improvisation ability of Louis Armstrong is combined with some intangible ingredient which stamps Nat's singing as truly unique. Moore is unquestionably the greatest guitar "find" since the late Charlie Christian came out of Oklahoma. Miller is a bassist of impeccable taste, and a thorough technician. Combined, all three spell quality.

Cole was born in Montgomery, Alabama, but at four had moved with his parents to Chicago. There he was reared on the south side of town at a time when Louis Armstrong, Earl Hines, Jimmie Noone and other titans held forth. Nat's father still preaches the



Nat (King) Cole

Gospel there; his mother leads a church choir. "I studied legitimate music for six years," Nat recalls. "Then I turned to jazz." After kicking around with various Negro show troupes, and playing in a band in which his brother Eddie played bass, Nat married Nadine Robinson, a showgirl, and wound up in L. A.

Earn More Than \$2000 Weekly

Here in the City of the Angels Cole and his bride struggled. Finally, after a heartbreaking scuffling period which all great musicians seemingly endure, Nat got together his trio. Moore was from Austin, Texas, via Phoenix, Ariz. Wesley Prince was the original bassist, but when he entered a war plant in '43 Miller took over the spot. Miller was from Pasadena. And so—the kid from Alabama, the boy from Texas and their pal from California—was born the trio which today commands \$2000 weekly and more in America's best theatres and niteries.

Since "Straighten Up" hit the jackpot

the trio has, by necessity, traveled all over. With Benny Carter's band, Cole and his men have been smashing records in theatres from California to Massachusetts. In November they cracked the all-time mark at the Apollo Theatre in New York, most famous sepia house in the world. In Kansas City they grossed more than \$9000 on a one-night stand in the Muny Auditorium. One week or one night, it makes no difference to Cole. His trio pulls 'em in!

By now Cole, Moore and Miller have appeared in four films for various studios. They have made guest appearances on a dozen or more national radio programs. They have given birth to a trend toward small groups—emphasis on three-piece combos—throughout the nation. Virtuosi like Art Tatum have followed suit and organized trios similar to Cole's. There are scores of imitations, in fact. But there is but one King Cole.

No Written Arrangements!

Cole employs no written arrangements. He calls rehearsals often, and seated at the piano he works out solo and ensemble passages with Oscar and Johnny by a nod of his head. Cole is conscientious to the extreme; he practices singing and piano regularly, striving to improve both. He's never late on the job, and his personal habits might well be the model for a troop of Boy Scouts. No one in the music biz is better liked.

Nor is anyone more popular with the Almighty Public, the little people and the big people, the military and the civilian populace, the boys and the girls. On records, in person, in films and over the radio it's the same story. Nat and his King Cole Trio are tops. The "Man of the Year" deserves his title. And if hard work and a surging, inexhaustible desire to please are factors responsible, Nat Cole will retain his title throughout 1945. Even if Nat can't see for lookin'.

From Paramount's
"HERE COME
THE WAVES"

JO STAFFORD

with PAUL WESTON and His Orchestra

'I PROMISE YOU'

VIOLIN ACCOMPANIMENT — ROBERT BARENE

and

'LET'S TAKE THE LONG WAY HOME'

Capitol
RECORDS
No. 181



Eight Great Classics!



The Nation's TOP TRIO in a best-seller song portfolio . . .

The Royal-Rockin'-Rhythm of The King Cole Trio . . . matched perfectly with a cover-full of hits!

'EMBRACEABLE YOU' 'THE MAN I LOVE'
'BODY AND SOUL' 'PAPER MOON'
and others

Album A-8 Eight Selections \$2.50

1

st in the news

NAMES MAKE — they always have and always will. These are the first to become newsworthy in 1945 . . . reading clockwise, at upper right Eugenie Baird on the Bing Crosby NBC show, where she's just been signed to a new Ozzie Nelson advises scriptwriter Jack Douglas to stick to his typewriter. Doug writes Ozzie's CBS Sabbath show, at one time actually played trombone professionally. Harry Owens and Ira (Lucky Lager) Cook interview each other on KFAC, with emphasis directed toward Owens' new "Hawaii" album. And The Groaner celebrates the new year with Nora Martin and a capon thigh. Over at extreme left Pat Weston and Johnny Mercer have one final conclave with Jo Stafford before he trains east to do personal appearances. Yes, Hollywood is jumping. And so it moves into high gear.





Ina Ray Hutton Back to Work After Vacation

After a long rest here in H'wood, Ina Ray Hutton trained east last week to open with a reorganized band at the Oriental Theatre, Chicago, on Jan. 5, to be followed a week later at the Downtown, Detroit.

Miss Hutton, long famous for her sultry singing and wardrobe, will front a 20-piece all-male outfit which will be booked by Frederick Bros.

Miller Band Gets Ballroom Booking

Eddie Miller's recently reorganized band is playing Saturdays at the Rendezvous Ballroom in Balboa Beach. Matty Matlock, Nappy LaMare and other former Bob Crosby musicians are working with the Miller orchestra.

BOB PARRISH, newest bandleader in the Los Angeles area, poses (at left) with **John Shackelford**, **Bill Grey** and Grey's wife **Margie Gibson**, who write the arrangements. Parrish will debut his crew here late in January. Photo by Jack Barcus.

Toscanini to Arrive Soon

Arturo Toscanini will make his first appearance in Los Angeles March 2 when he conducts the L. A. Philharmonic at Shrine Auditorium. The noted maestro, 79 years old, has never conducted west of Chicago since the adulation of music lovers, in New York, boosted him to prominence.

The March 2 date will be Toscanini's only appearance in the L. A. area.

He will donate his services to the Philharmonic's pension fund.

New L. A. Ork Led by Young Bob Parrish

Almost every month a new band is formed in L. A.

This past month of December, despite the holiday season, was no exception. With the assistance of Gordon T. Hughes of CBS, Bob Parrish is now rehearsing a new combo which he hopes to debut late in January at a H'wood nitery.

Bill Grey, Wife Arranging

Bill Grey, pianist and arranger, and his wife, Margie Gibson have been building a library for Parrish, who is well known throughout California as a singer. Two pianists are featured within the band, John Shackelford at one keyboard and Grey at the other.

Parrish still is looking for a trumpeter, trombonist and guitarist to round out the lineup. Among the personnel now are Sonny Graven, Eddie Davis, Arthur Dennis, Ted Shirley, Monty Easter, Robert Fortiz, Calvin Strickland, Bill Lundy, Merrell Anderson, Dick Sandford, Jap Jones and Drummer Walter Murden.

New Girl on Vocals

Barbara Talbot is Parrish's girl singer. It's a 19-piece band, all told, and Manager Hughes expects big things from it before the year ends. He once led a college band himself.

Sid Catlett Moves To New L. A. Club

Sid Catlett, his tubs and quartet moved down to Central avenue last month after a long run at the Streets of Paris in H'wood. New spot is known as the Downbeat club and is adjacent to the Club Alabam. Catlett uses tenor, piano, bass and his drums to form his combo.

Rustic Music Fading From L.A. Scene

HILLBILLY and "western" style music are waning in popularity, at least in the Southern California area, a survey conducted Christmas week revealed.

One of the strongholds of rustic syncopation, the Sunset Rancho in the heart of Hollywood, closed its doors in early December and reopened a week later not with cowboy bands but with Lew Gray's orchestra, which does not include hillbilly music in its repertoire. Joe Zucca, head of the Sunset Rancho, declared biz kept falling off to the point where it was no longer feasible to offer anything but dance music by an orthodox band.

The Casa Manana, one-time mighty ballroom in nearby Culver City which last summer junked its name band policy and began featuring hillbilly and cowboy combos, also is back on its old policy. Anson Weeks and his crew have been playing the Casa weekends recently. Cowboy and 'billy units are no longer booked.

Many another nitery and ballroom in the Southern Cal area is switching back to dance bands, or small jump units, after experimenting with rustic music over a period of time. Popularity of rustic records in the coin machines and over radio stations is slumping, the survey showed, indicating that a return to normalcy is imminent. The hillbilly craze swept this area two years ago when thousands of transients moved here to work in war plants.

Sells on 'Street'

Paul Sells has replaced Isabel Perry as the accompanist on Mark Breneman's CBS "Sunny Side of the Street" program.



MARTHA TILTON faces the kliegs and spotlights for a portrait at Hollywood's famed Dorlan studios with **Wallace Seawell** in charge of the lens. The liltin' Tilton gal just finished a film for PRC and on Jan. 10 will train out to Detroit to play three weeks at the Downtown Theatre in the Motor City. Then she goes east to play a New York theatre in person. Martha, who almost single-handedly made "I'll Walk Alone" a Hit Parade topper, recently returned from a long tour of South Pacific military bases with **Jack Benny** and **Carole Landis**. Dorlan Photo.

ELLA MAE MORSE



'WHY SHOULDN'T I?'
and
'HELLO, SUZANNE'

Capitol
RECORDS

No. 176

Andy
russell
'I DREAM OF YOU'
and
'MAGIC IS THE MOONLIGHT'

No. 175

Capitol
RECORDS



Featherstone New Mgr.; L. A. Capitol Branch Moved

ANNOUNCEMENT that Paul Featherstone has been made manager of the Hollywood branch of Capitol Records Distributing Co., Inc., was made this week by Capitol's national sales manager, Floyd E. Bittaker, upon his return to the west coast after a two-month business jaunt in the East and Middlewest.

Featherstone, well known in the recording industry for five years, replaced Bittaker as H'wood manager. Bittaker's new post as sales chief will enable him to spend considerable time traveling throughout the nation to assist dealers and operators with the Capitol line of records and accessories.

Simultaneously with the Featherstone promotion came news, via Bittaker's announcement, that the local (H'wood) branch of Capitol Distributing Co., would do business from a new Los Angeles location after Jan. 5. The new address is 318 West 15th Street, Los Angeles 15, Calif.

Ideally located, the new branch is near both Victor and Columbia distributors, and contains three times as much space as the old branch at 1453 North Vine.

Operators are invited to Capitol's new quarters at 318 West 15th Street,

where Featherstone will make his headquarters along with Bittaker and the entire staff of the Distributing Co.

Teagarden & Ork Back in L. A.

Jack Teagarden and band were to return to L. A. about Jan. 1 after a long road trip in the east and south. The band just closed at a New Orleans ballroom.

Big Gate lives in nearby Long Beach and will probably vacation briefly before accepting west coast location jobs. Jack's brother, Charlie, trumpeter, still is with the Ferry Command and stationed in Long Beach.

Ginny Simms' musical director on the Philip Morris, Edgar (Cookie) Fairchild, celebrated his third anniversary in the slot.

singers' stuff

IMPENDING arrival of Billie Holiday has the L. A. citizenry excited. She'll be here Jan. 17 for the Esquire clambake, and will be making her first appearance, this trip, since the summer of '42. Gal is hot in this vicinity and should prove a potent drawing card wherever she appears.

Johnny Clark, soon to make films for Hunt Stromberg, now being managed by Myron Selznick agency.

Helen Greco and Dick Baldwin are singing with Lew Gray's ork at the Casino on Sunset Blvd. Baldwin was with Charlie Spivak throughout most of 1944.

Diana Gayle started new 1:30 a.m. show on KNX, mixing her songs with discs. Show is shortwaved to fighting men in the Pacific.

Georgia Gibbs returned from eastern p.a. trek. She's on the Jimmy Durante CBS Friday commercial.

Louanne Hogan doing plenty of dubbing for actresses in films. She's the voice of Virginia Mayo in Bob Hope's starrer, "The Princess and the Pirate."

Shelley Mitchell signed to sing on "Blue Matinee" show on Blue web from H'wood.

Don Ameche returned to his first love, the Bergen Sunday NBC program, Dec. 17. He emsees and sings.

Delegation of manufacturers paid Carlos Ramirez off by purchasing war bonds valued at \$1,000,000 for one song at Ciro's.

Lina Romay, former X. Cugat canary, gets her first big break in films opposite Frank Morgan in MGM's "The Kissing Bandit" which Joe Pasternak will produce. John Hodiak is the star. Miss Romay left Cugat's band last year to seek a pic career and has been studying dramatics in the interim.

New rhumba band led by a chick known as "Dolores" being heard around town. She also sings.



KITTY CRAWFORD is a name to remember. She's been attracting attention on the CBS airplanes from H'wood as canary with Ted Straeter's orchestra. And no wonder.

Finston Quits as MGM Music Head

Nat Finston left his post as music chieftain of MGM, and has been replaced by Dave Chadkin following Finston's surprise resignation Dec. 4. Before affiliating with Metro, Finston had been music head at Paramount seven years.

After a short vacation, Finston will this month announce his new connection.

Lou Levy, manager of Andrews Sisters and songpub in his own right, returned to H'wood.

Yehudi Menuhin checks in at Paramount Jan. 16 for brief spot in "Duffy's Tavern" film.

vine street gab

HOAGY CARMICHAEL'S success as an actor in Warners' "To Have and Have Not" led to his being signed for another, "Johnny Angel." New film will be for RKQ, however. George Raft, Claire Trevor and Signe Hasso are the stars. Hoagy's tune "Memphis in June" will be spotted.

Another maestro is dabbling in films. Bob Mohr just finished a stint in "It's Never Too Late" at Universal. His band is not featured.

Former associate editor of The Capitol, Auriel Macfie, now in N. Y. as publicity director for Robert Holley Associates. Miss Macfie also has served with the promotion department of Liberty Magazine and in addition, is a noted authority on reptiles.

Mickey Goldsen, wife and daughter back to Manhattan after two-week business jaunt to Hollywood to escape eastern cold wave. Goldsen is head of Capitol Songs, Inc.

Louis Kaufman went into the Pacific Northwest for a series of violin concerts. Kaufman always incorporates works of modern American composers in his offerings.

Sid Robin, tunecliffer, in H'wood to write for film factories. Marty Melcher and Gene Lester came here from N. Y. with him.

Gene Krupa's band overflows the Palladium stand. Fiddles everywhere. Quite a contrast to his great '42 outfit in which Roy Eldridge and Anita O'Day were stars.

Meet The Jockey!

FRED EDMUNDS calls his record show on KGER, Los Angeles, "Musical Appreciation." Fred spins the



discs and keeps the chatter flowing. He was discharged from the marines in '43 and worked, for a time, on KLLX, Oakland, before moving south to the City of the Angels and his current assignment. Edmunds hopes to put on an all-night show in Los Angeles soon and plans are being worked out with that goal in mind.

"Rhythm Inn" show starring Ted Straeter's ork faded off CBS with Dec. 24 broadcast.

Max Steiner's newest scoring job is on Warner's "The Corn is Green."

Ozzie Nelson's Sunday CBS program, "Adventures of Ozzie and Harriet," now has 141 station outlets throughout the U. S. Program at first had only 63.

Critical illness of Oscar Moore, guitarist with King Cole Trio, had his friends here worried during Christmas season. Moore was out of commission, and in a N. Y. hospital, but is reported okay again and back in action.

Gene (KFWB) Norman launched new all-recorded program on KHJ - Mutual featuring semi-classics.

Chiqui Gastel returned to Mexico City to live.

Just Never Satisfied!

No needle we could find sounded good enough to us at Capitol, so we designed our own. We think it's so good we **guarantee it unconditionally, for finer tone, higher fidelity, less record wear, no needle noise.** Gives up to 10,000 plays.

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HOLLYWOOD

DESIGNED BY A RECORD MAKER

CAPITOL
SAPPHIRE
NEEDLE

\$250 plus tax

STAN
KENTON
AND HIS
ORCHESTRA



'Sweet Dreams, Sweetheart'
VOCAL BY
GENE HOWARD
and
'GOTTA BE GETTIN''
VOCAL BY
ANITA O'DAY

No. 178

Capitol
RECORDS

who's where

GENE KRUPA: Palladium.
LUCKY MILLINDER: Plantation.
HARRY JAMES: Casa Manana, week-ends.
TED FIO-RITO: Trianon.
JOE SULLIVAN: Cafe America.
FREDDY MARTIN: Cocanut Grove.
LEIGHTON NOBLE: Slapsy Maxie's.
ZUTTY SINGLETON: Swanee Inn.
JOE REICHMAN: Biltmore Hotel.
ERNIE FIELDS: Club Alabam.
JUD CONLON: Casablanca.
SID CATLETT: Downbeat Club.
JACK DERANJA: Happy Hacker's.
AL DONAHUE: Aragon.
DINNY FISHER: Zamboanga.
RED NICHOLS: Topsy's, Southgate.
HAPPY JOHNSON: Cricket Club.
EMILE PETTI: Town House.
COL. MANNY PRAGER: Hayward Hotel.
HARRY ROSENTHAL: The Players.
MANNY STRAND: Earl Carroll's.
CHUY REYES: Trocadero.
JOE HELQUIN: The Village.
NICK COCHRANE: Pirate's Den.
FREDDIE FISHER: Jade.
ILLINOIS JACQUET: Swing Club.
SLIM GAILLARD: Swing Club.
JACK DUNN: Zenda Ballroom.
NICK COCHRANE: Pirate's Den.
DON SWANN: H'wood Tropics.
LYLE GRIFFIN: Palladium.
GERALD WILSON: Playhouse.

Making Pix

HARRY JAMES: 20th-Fox.
GENE KRUPA: RKO-Radio.

Vannerson New Aide To Claude Thornhill

Leonard Vannerson, former Benny Goodman and Tommy Dorsey manager and now a navy man, sailed for Pearl Harbor just before Christmas as aide to Claude Thornhill, now a navy CPO and bandleader. Vannerson completed his boot training at San Diego last fall. He's also the wife of Singer Martha Tilton.



RUDY VALLEE, Vivian Blaine and Frank De Vol were brought together last month on Vallee's NBC Saturday show, which features music by De Vol's orchestra. A West Virginian by birth, Frank has made rapid progress in the last year after a long stint with Horace Heidt and Alvino Rey. He also is music chief of the Don Lee chain. Miss Blaine once was a band singer herself, is now a 20th-Fox star. Vallee recently was honorably discharged from Coast Guard.

Plethora of Jazz Concerts Staged In Philly Auditorium

Los Angeles was "concert crazy" last month, with two youthful promoters bucking each other at the Philharmonic Auditorium.

Eddie Laguna's bash on Dec. 10 featured leading H'wood musickers. Less than 1,000 persons turned out. Poor promotion was blamed. Laguna advertised the event, via handbills, as a "jazz" concert.

Norman Granz, more experienced but offering less variety in music and musicians than did Laguna, presented another in his series of cc 'bakes Dec. 18. Al Jarvis assisted with the promotion and also emceed.

Neither Laguna nor Granz plan another concert before the Esquire bash on Jan. 17, chiefly because there are only so many musicians in the L. A. area and all have been seen too often at various good and bad jazz exhibitions in recent months.

Manny Prager at L. A. Hotel Hayward

"Colonel" Manny Prager, his saxophone and band are the replacement for Red Nichols at the Hotel Hayward in downtown L. A. Prager, long featured with the late Ben Bernie's crew, is playing his first engagement in Southern Cal as a maestro.

'Don't You Know I Care'
AND
'Sleigh Ride in July'

PAUL WESTON

AND HIS ORCHESTRA
No. 177 Vocals by June Hutton



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Make a list of the popular numbers, the really big hits recorded in the last year. You'll find that *most of them* were brought out **FIRST** by CAPITOL RECORDS!

For example: "THE TROLLEY SONG" (Pied Pipers with Paul Weston's Orchestra) was released by CAPITOL last September... months before anyone else recorded it! The same is true of

'I DREAM OF YOU' (Andy Russell)
'AND HER TEARS FLOWED LIKE WINE' (Stan Kenton)
'AC-CENT-TCHU-ATE THE POSITIVE' (Johnny Mercer)
AND ABOUT TWENTY OTHERS

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the technical skill to record them with exceptional brilliance. Compare them yourself...you'll see what we mean.

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Between Sets at the Pally



WHAT DOES 1945 hold in store for Stan Kenton's orchestra? That's the question being pondered amiably by C. P. MacGregor, left; Anita O'Day and Kenton, whose "Artistry in Rhythm" crew was first recorded, in 1941, by MacGregor's transcription firm in L. A. Miss O'Day will appear

as soloist at the Esquire concert here Jan. 17 before Stan and his musickers pull out for the East. This shot, taken by Charlie Mihn between sets at the Palladium, was obtained on Kenton's closing night Dec. 24. Gene Krupa is the new Pally attraction.